

CLAIMS:

1. A method of consistently producing quality meat products by managing growth of a plurality of calves through a growth management program, the method comprising the steps of:
 - 5 establishing standards for participation in the program, the standards including - a minimum birth weight, a minimum twelfth week weight, a minimum seventeenth week weight, and a minimum growth rate;
 - culling out calves that fail to meet the standards; and
 - 10 implementing a growth protocol for the calves.
2. The method as set forth in claim 13, wherein the minimum birth weight is approximately eighty-five pounds.
- 15 3. The method as set forth in claim 13, wherein the minimum twelfth week weight is approximately two hundred pounds.
4. The method as set forth in claim 13, wherein the minimum seventeenth week weight is approximately three hundred pounds.
- 20 5. The method as set forth in claim 13, wherein the minimum growth rate is approximately two and one half pounds per day.
6. The method as set forth in claim 13, wherein the growth protocol
- 25 includes requirements concerning types of feed given to the calves.
7. The method as set forth in claim 13, wherein the growth protocol includes requirements concerning vaccinations given to the calves.

8. A method of consistently producing quality meat products by managing growth of a plurality of calves through a growth management program, the method comprising the steps of:

- 5 establishing standards for participation in the program, including - a minimum birth weight of approximately eighty-five pounds, a minimum twelfth week weight of approximately two hundred pounds, a minimum seventeenth week weight of approximately three hundred pounds, and a minimum growth rate of approximately two and one half pounds per day;
- 10 culling out calves that fail to meet the standards; and implementing a growth protocol for the calves, including - requirements concerning types of feed and vaccinations given to the calves.